

The CIA, writers and a harassment charge

Neither *The Washington Star* nor staff writer Walter Taylor needs my help in answering free-lance writer Russell Warren Howe (Letters, April 13) who claims that he was wronged by your headline, "CIA-Linked Author to Lecture on Hill."

Since Howe's letter exceeded the length of the original article, I would have to write an even longer letter to correct his many distortions and half-truths. Let it suffice to add that even in quoting his own book he is in error. Just recently, the spokesman for the Senate Intelligence Committee reiterated that the Demetracopoulos case investigation continues. And I might add that the London Guardian of March 16, 1977, reported: "The Senate intelligence committee announced today that it is to investigate allegations that a Greek journalist, Mr. Elias Demetracopoulos, was harassed by the CIA for his open opposition to the Greek junta between 1957-1974." There was a similar story by Ross Evans in *The Star* the day before.

Contrary to Howe's assertion, he and his co-author of "The Power Peddlers," Sarah Trott, came to me on Jan. 22, 1976, and showed me a memo concerning me that was similar to one prepared by the CIA and the State Department and circulated anonymously on Capitol Hill by the Nixon administration in 1971 and later apologized for.

Howe defends, in his letter, his use of CIA material by saying: "There is, of course, no reason why reporters should not use any sources, including the CIA . . ." That may be so, but a careful reporter will be cautious about using any source whose motive is suspect, and the CIA had clearly demonstrated, to Howe's apparent satisfaction, its antagonism toward me.

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